

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 40 are cancelled.

New Claims 41 to 50 were added.

Claims 41 to 50 are pending.

Support for newly added Claims 41 to 50 may be found in the specification as originally filed. Specifically, support for new Claims 41 to 50 may be found in original Claims 20 to 40. No new matter has been added.

I. Miscellaneous

a. Objections to the Claims

The Examiner has objected to Claims 22, 24, and 26 stating that they are “dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims”.

In response, Applicants have cancelled Claims 20 to 40, and added new Claims 41 to 50. Original Claims 22, 24, and 26 have been rewritten in independent form as new Claims 41 to 42. Based upon the Examiners statement that these Claims “would be allowable if rewritten in independent form”, Applicants believe the remaining new Claims 43 to 50 are also allowable since they depend from “allowable” claims.

Applicants believe the Examiners objection to Claims 22, 24, and 26 has been overcome in consideration of these amendments.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

a. The Examiner has rejected Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, alleging the “claimed invention is not supported by a credible, substantial, specific, or a well-established utility for the reasons of record set forth in the last Office Action mailed on 13 July 2004, at pages 2-3”.

Applicants disagree. However, in the sole interest of facilitating prosecution, Applicants have cancelled Claims 20 to 40.

Applicants believe the Examiner’s rejection of Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 has been rendered moot in consideration of the cancellation of these claims. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 as originally presented in related applications. Applicants right to equivalents of Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 are reserved. No new matter has been added.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

a. The Examiner has rejected Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner has rejected Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 alleging that “since the claimed invention is not supported by either a specific, substantial or credible utility for the reasons of record set forth in the last Office Action mailed on 13 July 2004, at pages 4, and the reasons above, as one skilled in the art clearly would not know how to use the claimed invention”

Applicants disagree. However, in the sole interest of facilitating prosecution, Applicants have cancelled Claims 20 to 40.

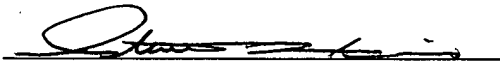
Applicants believe the Examiner's rejection of Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 has been rendered moot in consideration of the cancellation of these claims. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 as originally presented in related applications. Applicants right to equivalents of Claims 20, 21, 32, 25, 27, and 30 to 36 are reserved. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe that all of the Examiner's rejections and objections have been overcome and that all of the pending claims before the Examiner are in condition for allowance. An early Office Action to that effect is, therefore, earnestly solicited.

If any fee is due in connection herewith not already accounted for, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-3880 of the undersigned. Furthermore, if any extension of time not already accounted for is required, such extension is hereby petitioned for, and it is requested that any fee due for said extension be charged to the above-stated Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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